

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A folding bicycle comprising:

a frame comprising a top tube, a [[down]]frame tube, a seat tube and a bearing tube, the seat tube and bearing tube defining a plane, the frame tube extending between the bearing tube and seat tube and the seat tube having a bottom end;

a pedal axle assembly, the pedal axle positioned at or near the bottom end of the seat tube;

a folding front fork assembly including at least one front fork and a front wheel mounted on the front fork, the front fork assembly being coupled to the bearing tube by a joint and having a releasable connection that prevents rotation of the front fork assembly when in a locked position and permits rotation of the front fork assembly when in an unlocked position;

the front fork assembly being pivotally coupled to the frame at or near the bottom of the bearing tube and being foldable by rotating the front fork substantially 180 degrees and pivoting the front fork assembly it toward the down tube such that the front wheel is adjacent the down tubefolds in the plane defined by the seat tube and the bearing tube and lies in the plane in a folded position.

24. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 23 wherein the bearing tube defines a bearing tube rotation axis and the front fork assembly is rotatable about the bearing tube rotation axis in a folded configuration.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 23 further comprising a handlebar assembly having at least two handlebars, the handlebar assembly rotatably coupled to the frame.

27. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 26 wherein each of the at least two handlebars has a corresponding angled hinge, wherein each handlebar is rotatable at its respective hinge between a riding position and a downward position, the downward position positioning at least a portion of each said handlebar between the seat tube and the bearing tube.

28. (Currently Amended) The folding bicycle of claim 23 further comprising a manually releasable connection mechanism at the joint.

29. (Currently Amended) The folding bicycle of claim 23 further comprising a folding rear wheel assembly including a rear wheel, the rear wheel assembly being rotatable such that the rear wheel is rotated generally outward and upward with reference to the frame such that the rear wheel is substantially behind the seat tube in a folded position.

30. (Currently Amended) A folding bicycle that is foldable between a riding configuration and a folded configuration, comprising:

a frame comprising a top tube, a [[down]]frame tube, a seat tube and a bearing tube, the seat tube and bearing tube defining a plane and the frame tube extending between the bearing tube and seat tube;

a front fork assembly having at least one fork and a front wheel mounted on the front fork, the front fork assembly being coupled to the bearing tube by a joint and having a releasable connection that prevents rotation of the front fork assembly when in a locked position and permits rotation of the front fork assembly when in an unlocked position, the front wheel moving in the plane defined by the seat tube and bearing tube from the locked position to a folded position;

a handlebar assembly comprising at least two handlebars, the handlebar assembly rotatably coupled to the frame; and

a rear wheel assembly being foldable by rotating a rear wheel generally outward and upward such that the rear wheel is substantially behind the seat tube in a folded position;

wherein each of the handlebars is pivotable between an upward position and a downward position, the downward position positioning at least a portion of each said handlebar between the seat tube and the bearing tube.

31. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 30 wherein the folding handlebar assembly comprises:

a mounting member coupled to the frame assembly;
at least two spatially separated handlebar mounting assemblies, each respectively hingedly connecting a respective corresponding handlebar to the mounting assembly.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 30 wherein the folding fork assembly further comprises a manually releasable connection mechanism.

34-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 23 further comprising a handlebar assembly comprising at least two handlebars, the handlebar assembly rotatably coupled to the frame.

38. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 37 wherein each of the handlebars is pivotable between a riding position and a downward position, the downward position positioning at least a portion of each said handlebar between the seat tube and the bearing tube.

39. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 30 further comprising a folding front fork assembly coupled to the handlebar assembly, including a fork and a front wheel mounted on the fork, wherein a first end of the fork is releasably coupled to the frame at or near the bottom of the bearing tube.

40. (Previously Presented) The folding bicycle of claim 39 wherein the folding front fork assembly is foldable by rotating the front fork substantially 180 degrees and folding it toward the down tube such that the front wheel is adjacent the down tube in a folded position.

41. (Cancelled)